Tourism promotion in NE States

3600. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA :

SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that allocations to the NE States for tourism promotion have gone underutilized;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government is considering to relax the permit regime to promote tourism in North Eastern Region; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The review of restrictions pertaining to Restricted Area Permit (RAP)/Protected Area Permit (PAP) for tourists is a continuous process and is undertaken by the Ministry of Home Affairs on receipt of proposal from the concerned States and in consultation with security agencies.

Ministry of Home Affairs have conveyed relaxation of Protected Area Regime in the following circuits of Arunachal Pradesh.

(i) Along-Mechukha.

(ii) Existing Pasighat - Jenging - Yiungkiong to be extended up to Tuting.

(iii) Daproijo-Nacho Circuit Taliha and sayum.

(iv) Ziro-Palin-Nyapin-Sangram-Kaloriang.

(v) Doimukh-Sagalee-Pakee-Kasang-Seppa.

Government of Arunachal Pradesh has also been authorised to issue Protected Area Permit (PAP) in respect of the following :–

(1) To the visiting foreign tourists in a group of two or more persons (as against the existing requirement of group strength of four or more persons) for a maximum period of 30 days.

(2) To a group of two foreign tourists even if they are not married couples and to foreigners married to Indian national belonging to the State of Arunachal Pradesh for visiting the State on tourist visas.

Foreign Tourist Arrivals

3601. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA :

SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether tourism in India, which contributes to 6.23 per cent of G.D.P. provides employment to 50 million plus people, was hit hard, by the Mumbai terror attacks, as 5.22 lakh